

Commissioner for Patent United States Patent and Trademark Offic P.O. Box 145 Alexandria, VA 22313-145

2 5 JAN 2007

James A. Oliff OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC P.O. Box 19928 Alexandria, VA 22320

Dear Mr. Oliff:

This is in response to your communication received 07 December 2006 requesting status of the U.S. national stage application 10/582,162 filed June 8, 2006. As of date, the U.S. Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) presently has a backlog in processing Notification of Missing Requirements and Filing Receipts for all filed U.S. national stage applications.

A request was forwarded to a manger in DO/EO/US to expedite the processing of the above referenced application.

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MSR/MR:mr